

Appln No. 10/812,342
Amdt date January 7, 2008

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant respectfully requests that this supplemental amendment be entered prior to further consideration on the merits of the instant application.

Claims 1-12, 17-19, 22, 23, 32, 33 and 38 are now pending in the application, of which claims 1, 17, 22, 32 and 38 are independent. Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing claims 1-12, 18, 19 and 38. Applicant also thanks the Examiner for indicating that claims 17, 22, 23, 32 and 33 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant further thanks the Examiner for confirming on September 6, 2006 over the telephone that claims 17, 22, 23, 32 and 33 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form including all the terms and limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 17, 22 and 32 have been rewritten in independent form herein to place claims 17, 22, 23, 32 and 33 in allowable form.

All of the remaining newly added claims 17-19, 22, 23, 32, 33 and 38 are fully supported by the original application/patent. Therefore, no new matter has been added.

The following is a list that indicates where the support for various new claims are found in the original patent.

New claim 17 is supported, for example, by the Specification at column 3, line 11 - column 4, line 21 and by FIGS. 2-6. See also, original claim 13.

New claim 18 is supported, for example, by the Specification at column 2, lines 17 - 19 and by FIGS. 3 and 4.

New claim 19 is supported, for example, in the Specification at column 3, lines 58 - 64 and in FIGS. 3, 4 and 6.

New claim 22 is supported, for example, by the Specification at column 1, lines 37 - 57 and column 2, lines 24 - 27 and column 3, lines 11 - 20 and 39 - 40 and by FIGS. 2, 3 and 6. See also, original claims 1 and 13.

New claims 23 and 33 are supported, for example, by the Specification at column 3, lines 11-25 and by FIGS. 2 and 6.

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New claim 32 is supported, for example, by the Specification at column 1, lines 37 - 57 and 59 - 64 and column 2, lines 24 - 27 and column 3, lines 11 - 20, 39 - 40 and 61 - 64 and by FIGS. 2, 3 and 6. See also, original claims 1 and 13.


New claim 38 is supported, for example, by the Specification at column 1, lines 37 - 57 and 62 - 64 and column 2, lines 17 - 19 and 24 - 27 and column 3, lines 10 - 25, 39 - 51 and 61 - 64 and by FIGS. 2 - 4 and 6. See also, original claims 1 and 13.

Claims 13-16, 20-21, 24-31 and 34-37 are canceled herein. Since all of the rejected claims have been canceled, Applicant believes that the application is in a condition for allowance. In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicant earnestly solicits an early issuance of a Notice of Allowance with allowable/allowed claims 1-12, 17-19, 22, 23, 32, 33 and 38. If there are any remaining issues that can be addressed over the telephone, the Examiner is cordially invited to call Applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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